



United States Department of Agriculture
National Agricultural Statistics Service



New
England



Crop Progress & Condition

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Week ending April 23, 2017

*Issued weekly on the internet, April - November
by the Northeastern Regional Field Office of NASS*

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Fair week for field work: New England averaged 3.5 days suitable for field work last week. Spring seems to be ramping up as New England states experienced nice days for planting coupled with light rainfall for thirsty crops. Average weekly temperatures ranged from 4 degrees below and 8 degrees above normal. Weekly precipitation ranged from 0.23 to 1.72 inches. Many areas reported that spring tillage and even early planting of vegetable crops are underway, albeit operations with heavy soil are still dealing with mud and higher soil moisture. Many farms were utilizing their time not spent planting in applying fertilizers, spraying protective fungicides to tree fruits and pruning blueberry bushes and raspberry patches. The rain has been welcomed in most areas and fields are starting to appear much greener and healthy, which may be a boon to hay producers. Reports still show signs of mixed results in maple production. Field activities for the week consisted of preparing fields, tending to crops, spreading manure, early planting, equipment repair and maintenance.

Crop Progress as of April 23, 2017 (in percent)

Item	This Week
APPLES: GREEN TIP	24
BLUEBERRIES, TAME: GREEN TIP	8
BLUEBERRIES, WILD (ME): GREEN TIP	17
PEACHES: GREEN TIP	12
PEACHES: PINK	6
SPRING TILLAGE: PERCENT COMPLETE	7

Soil Moisture for Week Ending April 23, 2017 (in percent)

Item	Very Short	Short	Adequate	Surplus
TOPSOIL	0	3	66	31
SUBSOIL	0	5	73	22

For a complete nationwide weekly weather and crop bulletin, please visit www.usda.gov/occe/weather and click on "Weekly Weather and Crop Bulletin."

April 23, 2017 New England Weekly Weather Summary

		Last Week Weather Summary						Accumulation Since April 1, 2017					
		Temperature				Precipitation		Precipitation			GDD Base 50F		Base 40F
State	Station	Hi	Lo	Avg	DFN	Total	Days	Total	DFN	Days	Total	DFN	Total
Maine	Augusta_State_A	81	31	45	-1	0.72	4	2.44	-0.32	11	41	+39	135
	Bangor_Intl_Air	76	33	44	-1	0.73	5	2.78	+0.36	11	31	+31	110
	Bethel	80	28	45	0	0.54	3	2.85	+0.01	9	23	+23	98
	Bridgton	81	30	43	0	0.83	4	3.03	+0.08	11	19	+19	75
	Caribou_Municip	54	30	37	-4	1.44	6	3.11	+1.20	14	4	+4	45
	Dover-Foxcroft	71	29	41	+1	1.42	5	3.14	+0.45	11	11	+11	65
	Durham	84	29	46	0	0.72	4	3.24	-0.06	9	28	+28	116
	East_Surry	60	30	41	-4	0.71	5	2.51	-0.58	13	21	+21	95
	Eustis	56	26	38	0	0.63	5	1.96	-0.36	12	7	+7	40
	Frenchville	48	27	35	-4	0.54	7	1.77	-0.19	14	4	+4	30
	Harmony	73	29	43	0	1.00	5	2.92	+0.18	12	17	+17	80
	Hollis	83	25	44	0	0.87	4	3.94	+0.64	10	24	+24	93
	Houlton	62	29	38	-3	1.38	6	3.02	+0.96	15	12	+12	63
	Livermore_Falls	78	29	45	+3	0.81	5	3.04	+0.00	11	24	+24	93
	Millinocket_Wtr	65	27	38	-4	1.72	6	3.56	+0.96	14	4	+4	49
	Moosehead	55	30	38	0	1.68	6	3.54	+1.07	15	3	+3	43
	Portland_ME	86	30	48	+2	0.65	3	3.79	+0.65	9	47	+47	142
	Rangeley_2NW	65	29	39	0	0.50	4	1.99	-0.37	12	12	+12	55
	Topsfield_2	72	27	39	-3	1.45	6	2.93	+0.41	14	10	+10	68
	Turner	80	33	45	-2	0.93	5	2.88	-0.15	11	34	+31	118
	West_Rockport	80	31	44	0	0.80	5	3.48	-0.04	12	33	+33	112
	Whiting	69	24	43	0	0.28	4	1.90	-1.44	12	19	+19	111
	Woodland	69	32	42	-1	0.67	5	1.94	-0.84	11	10	+10	96
New Hampshire	Berlin_AG	76	35	46	+3	0.76	5	2.79	+0.43	12	26	+26	88
	Bradford_2	83	33	48	+1	0.84	3	2.83	-0.03	8	36	+30	115
	Colebrook	71	25	41	-1	0.77	5	2.46	+0.60	14	19	+19	59
	Concord	87	32	51	+4	0.79	3	2.89	+0.68	10	77	+73	194
	East_Milford	86	35	51	+3	0.86	3	3.09	+0.18	8	62	+54	183
	Epping	85	30	49	+2	0.81	4	3.09	-0.01	11	62	+57	169
	Errol_AP	66	25	42	+3	0.79	5	2.99	+0.97	15	13	+13	59
	Greenville	82	31	48	+3	0.61	3	3.31	+0.56	8	55	+55	153
	Hancock	84	33	50	+4	0.92	5	2.76	-0.12	12	59	+57	164
	Jaffrey_Silver_	82	35	50	+5	0.57	4	2.68	-0.07	10	50	+50	158
	Jefferson	76	33	46	+2	0.59	6	1.82	-0.30	14	30	+30	98
	Keene_AG	85	31	49	+3	0.61	4	2.81	+0.40	10	48	+46	150
	Lakeport_2	82	36	49	+3	0.89	3	2.95	+0.45	10	41	+39	146
	Lebanon	84	31	50	+5	0.59	3	2.48	+0.42	11	65	+64	182
	North_Conway	83	31	45	0	0.89	3	3.29	+0.23	10	30	+30	115
	Tamworth_4	80	29	45	+2	1.09	3	3.60	+0.52	10	23	+23	88
	Wolfeburro	80	34	48	+2	0.71	4	2.91	+0.41	11	44	+42	142
Vermont	Averill	63	27	41	+3	0.61	4	2.30	+0.05	11	7	+7	54
	Bennington_AP	84	32	52	+8	0.58	4	2.12	-0.40	11	71	+71	212
	Burlington_Intl	82	36	49	+3	1.02	5	3.43	+1.33	12	68	+64	195
	Corinth	75	34	46	+2	0.62	5	2.61	+0.77	12	20	+20	83
	Johnson_2N	73	30	43	+1	1.29	5	4.42	+2.02	13	27	+27	78
	Marlboro_Raws	80	32	48	+6	0.99	4	3.57	+1.61	10	36	+36	133
	Montpelier_AP	79	32	46	+2	0.82	5	2.70	+0.86	13	43	+43	120
	Newport_AG	70	30	44	-1	1.16	5	3.21	+1.08	14	36	+34	98

		Last Week Weather Summary						Accumulation Since April 1, 2017					
		Temperature				Precipitation		Precipitation			GDD Base 50F		Base 40F
State	Station	Hi	Lo	Avg	DFN	Total	Days	Total	DFN	Days	Total	DFN	Total
	Rochester	81	35	47	+3	0.96	5	3.35	+0.66	12	28	+28	114
	Rutland_AG	79	32	49	+2	0.59	5	2.06	+0.04	13	33	+24	135
	Springfield_VT	84	33	50	+6	0.86	4	2.97	+0.11	11	57	+57	163
	South_Lincoln	78	29	45	+4	0.72	5	3.29	+0.19	13	27	+27	92
	Sutton	74	31	43	+2	1.29	5	3.41	+1.38	16	22	+22	70
	Walden	70	27	40	-1	1.21	5	3.61	+1.58	15	14	+14	48
	Woodstock	83	33	49	+4	0.56	4	2.75	+0.23	11	37	+37	137
Massachusetts	Amherst	85	35	53	+5	0.86	4	2.89	+0.08	9	60	+52	200
	Barre_Falls_Dam	82	34	51	+6	0.63	5	4.71	+1.86	11	68	+68	194
	Bedford_Hanscom	86	33	52	+3	0.44	4	3.39	+0.46	9	94	+81	233
	Beverly_Ag	85	32	50	+1	0.44	4	3.12	+0.00	9	58	+44	168
	Birch_Hill_Dam	83	32	50	+5	0.57	4	1.95	-0.80	10	49	+49	158
	Boston_Logan_In	86	39	52	+2	0.64	4	3.39	+0.72	9	89	+70	246
	Chatham_AP	77	34	49	+3	0.41	5	2.51	-0.40	10	31	+28	174
	Chicopee_Westov	87	34	53	+5	0.68	4	2.69	-0.12	11	78	+70	228
	Edgartown	77	39	51	+3	0.49	4	3.06	-0.11	10	32	+25	180
	East_Brimfield_	83	36	51	+4	0.86	6	4.08	+0.98	14	60	+56	193
	Fitchburg	88	36	53	+5	0.71	4	3.07	-0.16	10	104	+94	248
	Greenfield	85	36	52	+4	0.70	3	2.71	-0.10	10	58	+50	200
	Hyannis_AP	79	31	51	+4	0.49	4	2.72	-0.08	9	47	+43	189
	Lawrence_AP	88	38	53	+5	0.54	3	3.02	+0.01	8	106	+98	244
	Maynard	88	34	53	+4	0.57	4	3.17	+0.24	9	91	+78	244
	New_Bedford	82	30	52	+3	0.61	5	3.85	+0.60	11	62	+51	210
	North_Adams_Har	84	32	52	+8	0.71	4	2.15	-1.02	11	66	+66	203
	Norwood	88	34	53	+4	0.56	4	3.27	+0.19	9	99	+82	258
	Pittsfield	81	31	50	+4	0.82	3	2.88	+0.13	10	61	+59	182
	Plymouth	85	30	51	+3	0.55	5	4.36	+0.93	10	65	+55	199
	Taunton_4NW	87	33	51	+2	0.73	5	4.31	+1.20	12	73	+60	217
	Westfield_Barne	87	34	53	+7	0.77	4	2.72	-0.36	9	85	+82	238
	West_Otis	87	34	53	+8	0.72	4	2.62	-0.68	11	70	+70	214
	Worcester	82	35	50	+3	0.72	5	3.19	+0.33	12	76	+71	198
	Worthington	82	30	49	+4	1.06	4	3.34	+0.48	11	44	+44	155
Rhode Island	Newport_AP	75	37	51	+3	0.59	5	3.52	+0.32	10	49	+40	209
	Providence	86	36	54	+4	0.78	5	3.75	+0.67	11	83	+61	252
	Westerly-Wester	77	40	53	+4	0.65	5	2.91	-0.24	10	53	+42	229
	Woonsocket	86	34	52	+3	0.74	5	2.78	-0.51	11	83	+70	231
Connecticut	Bridgeport_Siko	78	45	55	+4	0.73	4	3.83	+0.90	9	80	+58	281
	Danbury_AP	82	35	52	+2	0.92	5	2.47	-0.63	10	62	+40	224
	Hartford_Bradle	88	39	55	+4	0.60	5	2.71	-0.11	13	98	+70	266
	Meriden-Meriden	88	39	56	+7	0.23	3	1.98	-1.43	6	95	+81	277
	Norfolk	81	33	49	+4	0.74	5	2.38	-0.92	13	52	+52	164
	Norwich	84	39	55	+5	0.47	5	2.97	-0.43	10	83	+61	259
	Staffordville	83	34	50	+2	0.65	5	3.35	+0.11	12	48	+40	161
	Thomaston_Dam	83	34	53	+6	0.90	5	3.31	+0.16	12	61	+55	223
	West_Thompson_L	85	34	52	+5	0.58	4	3.53	+0.27	10	68	+61	195
	Willimantic	87	39	55	+7	0.47	5	2.89	-0.35	12	100	+92	277

Summary based on NWS data. DFN = Departure From Normal.
Precipitation (rain or melted snow/ice) in inches.
Air Temperatures in Degrees Fahrenheit.
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REPORTERS COMMENTS, By County

Reporters are from Extension Service (Ext), Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS), Farm Service Agency (FSA), Conservation District (CD), farmers, commodity specialists, or other knowledgeable individuals.

CONNECTICUT

NEW LONDON, Sarah Woodward

The past few weeks have brought warm spring days with most nights above freezing. Periods of rain have been greatly appreciated. Farmers preparing fields and spreading manure. Some planting first few fields of feed corn. Vegetable producers harvesting over-wintered greens, seeding greens and other early crops. Some planting sweet corn for 4th of July harvest.

MAINE

AROOSTOOK (Central), Larry James

Cold and wet weather have kept the ground saturated. Looks like a late start to planting. Growers are keeping busy hauling seed and preparing equipment.

CUMBERLAND/YORK, Sandy Truslow

Grass is greening up. Spring tillage has started on the well-drained land. Early vegetables are being planted.

FRANKLIN, Gary J. Raymond

We are in the thick of mud season. There is still some snow around the edges and lots of snow in the woods. The melt has been slow, so flooding has been minor, so far. Maple syrup production was mixed, ranging from average to below average.

HANCOCK/PENOBSCOT, Valerie Porter

Still too early and wet for field tillage. Farms may start this week on high ground with manure spreading. Fields should be greening up since the sun is shining. Blueberry fields have started to be burned and equipment is ready to go.

MASSACHUSETTS

ALL MA COUNTIES, Tom Smiarowski

Potatoes, sweet corn, asparagus and other vegetable crops planting under full swing. There isn't a more welcome sight than peaches blooming in the orchards this year! Rainfall has been adequate so far.

HAMPSHIRE/HAMPDEN, Heather Baylis

Spring activities are starting to ramp up. Farmers are prepping fields and have started planting. The nights are still cool and good days are warming up to the seventies.

PLYMOUTH, Erika Saalau Rojas

Several warm days with average low temperatures were observed this past week in Southeastern Massachusetts. There were a few rainy days throughout the week, but it did not go past 0.5 inch in most locations. Many cranberry growers are running irrigation for frost protection as cranberry buds have lost dormant color and in some locations have expanded slightly (based on bud color and tightness of bud scales). Visual observations of cut buds late in the week showed no damage or minor damage in a small percentage of buds.

NEW HAMPSHIRE

CHESHIRE, Carl Majewski

Warm at the start and end of the week, with cooler temps and a little rain midweek. Pastures and hayfields continue to green up nicely, with visible grass growth. Farms busy spreading manure, getting ready for field prep for corn planting. Very early veggie crops getting planted.

GRAFTON, Heather Bryant

Several warm days meant some farms began spreading manure and tilling on the earliest fields this past week. I'm still getting occasional reports that farms that had drought problems last year still aren't completely back to normal.

GRAFTON, Steven Schmidt

Farms on the river bottom fields have begun spreading and injecting manure. Most of the frost is out of the ground along the river flood plains. However some upland fields still have areas where frost is still present a few inches below the surface. The grass is beginning to grow. Rain arrived toward the last half of the week and dropped a cumulative total of just under a half inch for the week. Brooks and streams appear to be running significantly below normal levels for this time of the year.

HILLSBOROUGH, George Hamilton

The forsythia bushes are in full bloom! Vegetables: Early season vegetables (peas, lettuce, greens) are being planted. Liming, fertilizing, plowing, disking and getting ready to plant fields. Fruits: Apples are at tight cluster stage to pink stage. Apricot blooming during week and peaches blooming at end of week. Pruning blueberry bushes and raspberry patches. Orchardists are chopping brush in orchard or push pruning out of the orchards. Fertilizing orchards. Protective fungicide sprays applied on fruit trees over weekend of April 22-23. Field Crops: Liming and fertilizing hay fields and pastures. Spreading manure, plowing, disking fertilizing and getting ready to plant corn. Fixing pasture fences. Also, getting ready to make new pasture and hay field seeding.

ROCKINGHAM, Nada Haddad

Peaches at pink stage almost in bloom. Growers keeping fingers crossed. Spreading lime and fertilizer on hay fields. Pruning blueberries and raspberries. Planting early vegetables in the field. Transplanting tomatoes in greenhouses. The week saw a couple of rainy days, also a couple of sunny days, and colder nights. Some heavy soil fields are still wet.

RHODE ISLAND

ALL RI COUNTIES, Heather Faubert

Not much rain the last two weeks, but wet conditions two days.

VERMONT

ALL VT COUNTIES, Terence Bradshaw

Steady bud development has most orchards at half-inch green growth stage. Growers are maintaining fungicide coverage for apple scab. Good weather conditions exist for planting trees and grapevines. No apparent growth in vineyards yet.

BENNINGTON/RUTLAND, Tina Williams

A week of nice weather has started field work progress. Fruit trees and blueberries are coming alive. Sweet corn is going in the ground to hit the early markets.

FRANKLIN/GRAND ISLE, Heather Darby

Field season is starting very slow. It has been mostly cool and wet throughout most of northern VT. There has been some manure application but due to soil conditions it has progressed slowly. Some fertilizer has been added to forage stands

FRANKLIN, Paul Stanley

Wet weather continues to keep Manure, tillage and any corn planting at bay. Grass is greening up nicely, however, needs some "Growing Degree Day temps" to get it growing. Apple Tree and tree buds in general are progressing nicely. Small fruits are slower with the cooler temps.